

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3045
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2021**

AMENDMENT OF APPRENTICESHIP ACT, 1961

3045. Smt. Kumari Shobha Karandlaje:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Apprenticeship Act, 1961;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the need for amending the Act;
- (c) whether the new Act replaces the penal provisions of fine on companies by executive authorities for failure to take apprentices;
- (d) whether the new Act will also allow part time apprenticeship students under formal education system, while replacing the provision of contract approval by authorities;
- (e) whether the Government plans to open up apprenticeship opportunities for students while pursuing education, while allowing employers to send their apprentices on the manufacturing locations abroad; and
- (f) whether the Government also propose to realign the existing Scheme of National Apprenticeship Training Scheme, if so, the details thereof, including the outlay for the scheme during the current financial year

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
(Shri R. K. Singh)**

(a) to (e) Yes Sir, Government proposes to amend the Apprentices Act, 1961, as already announced in the Budget Speech of Union Budget 2021 at para 124. It has been stated therein that the Government proposes to amend the Act with a view to further enhancing apprenticeship opportunities for our youth.

The Government presently is in consultation with various stakeholders following which the draft amendments would be finalized.

(f) Department of Higher Education has proposed to have a modified National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) for the period from 2021-2022 to 2025-26 . The revised scheme is going to include apprenticeship training of graduate, technician and degree apprentices. In degree apprenticeship, students pursuing non-technical streams (B.A/B.Com/B.Sc etc.) are also proposed to be engaged under NATS. The estimated cost of reimbursement of stipendiary amount will be Rs. 3000 crore (Approx.) during the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 for graduates, technician & degree apprentices. The outlay for the NATS during the current FY (2020-21) is Rs. 175 Crore.
